

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Sub
B1
A1 1. (Original) A personal identification system for an information processing system including two or more local computers and a remote computer having common resources which can be accessed by each of the local computers, comprising:

a personal verification system as common equipment for the local computers, including a database means for storing passwords of each authorized user and physical characteristics data corresponding to each password, wherein:

the local computer is provided with a physical characteristics scanning/sending means for scanning physical characteristics of a user when the user made a request to the local computer for the use of the common resources of the remote computer, generating characteristics data based on the scanned physical characteristics of the user, and sending the characteristics data to the personal verification system, and

the personal verification system which received the characteristics data from the physical characteristics scanning/sending means of the local computer searches the database means for a password using the received characteristics data as a key and sends the searched password to the local computer, and

the local computer which received the password from the personal verification system sends the received password to the remote computer for user identification.

2. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the remote computer includes a user personal identification means for executing personal identification of the user by use of the password which is sent from the local computer.

AI 3. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the local computers, the remote computer and the personal verification system are connected together by a communication network.

4. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication network is an Ethernet LAN.

5. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication network is a wireless LAN.

6. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a fingerprint of the user is scanned by the physical characteristics scanning/sending means as the physical characteristics of the user.

7. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein an iris pattern of the user is scanned by the physical characteristics scanning/sending means as the physical characteristics of the user.

8. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a retina pattern of the user is scanned by the physical characteristics scanning/sending means as the physical characteristics of the user.

9. (Original) A personal identification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a voiceprint of the user is scanned by the physical characteristics scanning/sending means as the physical characteristics of the user.

10. (Original) A personal identification method for an information processing system including two or more local computers and a remote computer having common resources which can be accessed by each of the local computers, comprising the steps of:

a physical characteristics scanning/sending step in which a physical characteristics scanning/sending means of a local computer scans physical characteristics of a user when the user made a request to the local computer for

A/ the use of the common resources of the remote computer, generates characteristics data based on the scanned physical characteristics of the user, and sends the characteristics data to a personal verification system which is provided to the information processing system as common equipment for the local computers and which includes a database means for storing passwords of each authorized user and physical characteristics data corresponding to each password;

a personal verification step in which the personal verification system which received the characteristics data from the physical characteristics scanning/sending means of the local computer searches the database means for a password using the received characteristics data as a key and sends the searched password to the local computer; and

a password sending step in which the local computer which received the password from the personal verification system sends the received password to the remote computer for user identification.

11. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a user personal identification step in which the remote computer executes personal identification of the user by use of the password which is sent from the local computer.

12. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the local computers, the remote computer and the personal verification system are connected together by a communication network.

13. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the communication network is an Ethernet LAN.

14. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the communication network is a wireless LAN.

15. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein a fingerprint of the user is scanned in the physical characteristics scanning/sending step as the physical characteristics of the user.

A1
16. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein an iris pattern of the user is scanned in the physical characteristics scanning/sending step as the physical characteristics of the user.

17. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein a retina pattern of the user is scanned in the physical characteristics scanning/sending step as the physical characteristics of the user.

18. (Original) A personal identification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein a voiceprint of the user is scanned in the physical characteristics scanning/sending step as the physical characteristics of the user.

A2
19. (Newly Added) A personal verification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein only the remote computer determines whether or not a user of the local computer is permitted or denied access to data stored at the remote computer.

20. (Newly Added) A personal verification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the user desires to access common resources that are stored at the remote computer, and

wherein the remote computer makes the sole determination, based on the received password, as to whether or not to grant the user access to the common resources.

21. (Newly Added) A personal verification system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the personal identification system is disposed remotely from the local computers and remotely from the remote computer.

A2
22. (Newly Added) A personal verification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein only the remote computer determines whether or not a user of the local computer is permitted or denied access to data stored at the remote computer.

23. (Newly Added) A personal verification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the user desires to access common resources that are stored at the remote computer, and

wherein the remote computer makes the sole determination, based on the received password, as to whether or not to grant the user access to the common resources.

24. (Newly Added) A personal verification method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the personal identification system is disposed remotely from the local computers and remotely from the remote computer.